

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 8149

廿五初日二十一曜光

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, JANUARY 20TH, 1855.

二年

英香正月十二號

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH

12 JAN 1855

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.
January 18. J. C. SMITH, American S.s.m. schr., 4th, N. B. Frans, Newcastle 25th November, Coal—
Order.

January 19. MERLIN, British gunboat, Commander R. H. C. Brenton, Swatow 18th January.

January 19. CLAYMORE, British steamer, 1,696, Gt. tonnage, London 20th Nov., and Singapore 10th Jan., General—REHUSSEL & Co.

CLEARANCES.
AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE.
10TH JANUARY.
Pakwa, British str., for Swatow.
Kamtschatka, Russian str., for Nagasaki.
Elise, German ship, for Rangoon.

DEPARTURES.

January 18. ESK, British gunboat, for Swatow.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Claymore, str., from London, &c.—Lieut. A. F. Gordon, and 30 Chinese from Singapore to DEPART.

Per P. & O. str., Peshawar, from Hongkong—For Venice—Rev. H. Jenkins, For London—Mr. C. E. Sanderson, From Shanghai—For Suez—Mr. B. R. Ashton, T. For London—Lieut. and Mrs. Bourdier, and 3 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

Per Hyades, str., for Shanghai—Mr. H. Bohr.

REPORTS.

The British steamer Claymore reports left London on the 20th November. Had moderate winds during the first part; crossing the India Ocean had strong wind and high sea. Left Singapore on the 18th Inst. From Singapores to port strong N.E. winds and high seas.

TO BE LET.

FOR SALE OR TO LET.

A FIVE-ROOMED BUNGALOW AT THE PEAK with TENNIS GROUND attached. Possession from 1st April.

Apply to L.

Care of the Office of this Paper, Hongkong, 19th January, 1855. [204]

TO LET.

OS. 1 AND 3, CANINE ROAD.

Apply to N. N. J. EZRA, 33, Wellington Street, Hongkong, 24th December, 1854. [205]

TO LET.

FOUR COMMODIOUS GODDOWNS Nos. 64, 65, 92a and 93a, Bowrington, Wan Chai.

Apply to D. NOWROOZEE, Hongkong, 30th December, 1854. [206]

HONGKONG WHARF & GODDOWNS.

Goods received on STORAGE at Moderate Rates, in First-class Godowns.

Also

ENTIRE GODDOWNS to be LET

MEYER & Co., Hongkong, 3rd March, 1851. [207]

TO BE LET.

BUNGALOW AT THE PEAK, TENNIS LAWN Attached.

No. 25, ELGIN TERRACE, HOUSE & OFFICES NO. 2, DUDDELL STREET.

HOUSES in SPRING GARDENS, Moderate RENTS.

GODDOWNS, at FITCHETT'S BUILDINGS, GODOwns—with Water Frontage at WANCHAI.

COVERED SHEDS for Coals or Timber.

LINSTEAD & DAVIS, Hongkong, 5th January, 1855. [208]

STORAGE.

GOODS RECEIVED ON STORAGE in Commodious and well ventilated GODDOWNS on his New Premises in DUDDELL STREET, next to the ORIENTAL BANK.

G. R. LAMBERT, Hongkong, 29th December, 1854. [209]

TO LET.

WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

HOUSE No. 26, PEEL STREET.

Apply to J. A. de CARVALHO, Hongkong, 12th January, 1855. [210]

TO LET.

THE BUNGALOW with LAWN GROUND and GARDEN, at Duck Bay, Kowloon.

Apply to I. P. MADAR, Victoria Hotel, Hongkong, 9th January, 1855. [210]

TO BE LET OR SOLD.

Possession 1st April, 1855.

THE BUNGALOW on the ROBINSON ROAD known as "ANFIELD".

Apply to HO KAI, 16, Bank Buildings, Hongkong, 8th January, 1855. [214]

TO LET.

ROOMS in CLUB CHAMBERS.

Apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co., Hongkong, 1st February, 1852. [32]

TO LET.

THE DWELLING HOUSE No. 3a, CAINE ROAD. Possession from 1st January, 1855.

Apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co., Hongkong, 24th December, 1854. [37]

TO LET.

COLLEGE CHAMBERS (late HOTEL DE L'UNIVERS), Single Rooms or Suites of Apartment.

No. 4, 18, HOLLYWOOD ROAD.

No. 44, GRANAT STREET.

No. 25b, PRAYA CENTRAL.

Apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co., Hongkong, 3rd January, 1853. [31]

TO LET.

Possession from 1st February next.

THE HOUSE No. 11, REMEDIOS'S TERRACE, Arbatash Road, at present occupied by WALTER POATE, Esq., with Gas and Water laid.

Apply to REMEDIOS & Co., Hongkong, 3rd January, 1855. [38]

THE Undersigned have been appointed Sole Agents for the Sale of their Goods in Hongkong and China by Messrs. J. & R. TENNENT, Glasgow, and Messrs. DAVID COESAR & Sons, Arbatash.

ANHOLD, KARBBERG & Co., Hongkong, January, 1857. [20]

INTIMATIONS.

AYALA & Co., REIMS.

AYALA & Co., REIMS.

FOR SALE.

THE CHAMPAGNE OF THE ABOVE FIRM.

PRICE:

\$19.00 Per Dozen Quarts.

\$21.00 Per Dozen Pints.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Sole Agents.

Hongkong, 16th January, 1855. [205]

BANKS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$7,500,000.

RESERVE FUND \$4,000,000.

RESERVE FOR EQUALIZATION OF DIVIDENDS \$400,000.

RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS \$7,500,000.

FOR SALE.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.—Chairman—P. McEWEN, Esq. Deputy Chairman—Hon. F. D. SASSOON, Esq. Hon. J. M. DALYNY, Esq. M. D. SASSOON, Esq. M. Grind, Esq. W. H. Forbes, Esq. Hon. W. Kewell, Esq. C. D. BATTENBY, Esq.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1855. [17]

PRICE:

Per Dozen Quarts.

Per Dozen Pints.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 16th January, 1855. [205]

AUCTIONS.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has been instructed to Sell by Public Auction, at his Sale Rooms, Queen's Road, Hongkong, on

THE 21ST INSTANT, AT NOON,

ON ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,

4,622 TONS of the CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY'S DOUBLE REFINED CUBE SUGAR.

TERMS.—Cash before Delivery and immediate delivery to be taken from the Godowns of the China Sugar Refining Company.

J. M. ARMSTRONG, Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1855. [17]

FURNITURE SALE.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. will Sell by Public Auction at the Residence of Dr. STOCKWELL, NO. 4, LANE'S QUAYS TERRACE, on

SATURDAY, the 25th INSTANT, at 2 O'CLOCK P.M.

ENGLISH and CHINESE FURNITURE.

CRETONNE COVERED COUCHES and CHAIRS, MARBLE TOP TABLES, OLEOPHAGHS, ENGRAVINGS, WINDOW CURTAINS, CARETS, MIRRORS, &c.

SIDEBOARD, DINING TABLE, CHAIRS, GLASS and CROCKERY, ELECTRO-PLATED WARE, BRONZE CLOCK, &c.

BEDSTEAD, DINING TABLE, CHAIRS, GLASS and CROCKERY, BEDSTEAD, MAHOGANY WARDROBE WITH MIRROR FRONT, MAHOGANY DRESSING TABLES and WASH-STANDS, CHEST or DRAWERS, &c.

ALSO A GRAND PIANO by COLLARD and COLLARD.

TERMS.—As usual.

Catalogues will be issued.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 19th January, 1855. [203]

FURNITURE SALE.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. will Sell by

Public Auction by Order of Lieut.-Col. G. A. CRAWFORD, R.A., at his Residence No. 3, Morrison Hill, on

TUESDAY, the 27th INSTANT, at 2 O'CLOCK P.M.

HIS HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.

Comprising—

CRETONNE COVERED COUCHES and CHAIRS, CANTON MARBLE-TOP TABLES, SOFA, and other TABLES, CARPETS, CURTAINS, MIRRORS, &c.

IRONWARE, CHINA, &c.

1885. NOW READY. 1885.
THE CHRONICLE & DIRECTORY
FOR 1885.
WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.

[TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL ISSUE].
ROYAL OCTAVO, 1 VOL. 1,104...\$5.00.
SMALLER EDITION, PP. 715...\$3.00.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
has been thoroughly revised and brought up
to date, and is again much increased in bulk:
It contains Descriptive and Statistical
Accounts of all Countries and Directories for
HONGKONG—JAPAN—

Do. Ladies' Directory—Nakasi.

Do. Military Forces, Kobe (Hiro).

Do. Chinese Hongkong—Osaka.

Macao—Tokio—Yokohama.

China—Pekin—Ningpo—Tientsin.

Macao—Tokio—Yokohama.

Philippines—Luzon—Mindanao.

Whampoa—Canton—Swatow.

Amyo—Takao—Taiwan.

Taiwan—Tamsui—Keelung.

Pescadores—Wusheou—Wusheou.

Shanghai—Wuhu—Kuklung.

Hankow—Chingking.

Chingking—Chekiang—Taku.

Tientsin—Tientsin.

Peking—Newchwang.

COREA—Seoul—Jechidam.

Fusan—Yeosu—Ujung.

Yeosu—Songor.

Vladivostock—Natal—Sakhalin.

British—German—United States.

Scandinavia—Officers of the Coasting Forces of P. & O. S. N. Co.

China & Manila S. S. Co.

Messrs. Maritimes & Co.

M. B. M. S. S. C. H. C. & M. B. Co.

Indo-China S. N. Co. Scotch Oriental S. S. Co.

Douglas S. S. Co. Miscellaneous Coast

Russell & Co. Steamers.

The LIST OF RESIDENTS now contains the names of ELEVEN THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED, AND FIFTY-FIVE FOREIGNERS arranged under one Alphabet in the strictest order; the initials as well as the surnames being alphabetical.

The MAPS and PLANS have been mostly re-drawn in a superior style and brought up to date.

FLAGS OF MERCANTILE HOUSES IN CHINA.

CODE OF SIGNALS IN USE AT VICTORIA PEAK.

MAP OF THE FAR EAST.

NEW MAP OF THE ISLAND OF HONGKONG.

NEW PLAN OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA.

NEW PLANS FOR CONCESSIONS, SHANGHAI.

PLAN OF YOKOHAMA.

PLAN OF SAIGON.

MAPS OF TOWNS AND ENVIRONS OF SINGAPORE.

Among the other contents of the book are—

An Anglo-Chinese Calendar, Mountains of Sun-

rise and Sunset, Mean of Barometer, and

Thermometer, Rainfall, Eclipse, Festivals, &c.

A full Chronology of remarkable events since the year 1800, and the history of China and Japan.

A description of the Products, Pastes, &c.

and Jewels, with the days on which they fall.

Comparative Tables of Money, Weights, &c.

The Hongkong Postal Guide for 1885.

Arrivals and Departures of Mails at and from London and Hongkong.

Scales of Commissions and Charges adopted by the Chambers of Commerce of Hongkong, Shanghai and elsewhere.

Hongkong Club Journal.

This issue contains the New Scale of Hongkong STAMP DUTIES, which will shortly come into operation, also tables of COURT FEES, never before published.

The APPENDIX consists of over FIVE HUNDRED PAGES of closely printed matter, to which reference is constantly required by residents and those having commercial or political relations with the Countries embodied within the scope of the CHINA AND DIRECTORY.

The Contents of this Appendix are too many to enumerate in an advertisement, but include—

TERMINATIONS WITH CHINA—

Great Britain, Nanking, 1842

Tientsin, 1853

and all others not abrogated

France, Tientsin, 1851

Convention, 1860

United States, 1858

Admiralty, 1869

Peking, 1880

German, Tientsin, 1861

Peking, 1880

Russia, Japan, Spain, Brazil, Peru.

TERMINATIONS WITH JAPAN—

Great Britain, Netherlands

United States, Korea

Treaties with Siam

Treaties with Annam

Customs Tariffs, Cambodia

Chinese Siamese

Japanese Korean

LOCAL

Orders in Council for Government of H. B. M.

Subjects in China and Japan, 1865, 1877,

1878, 1881

Rules of H. M. Supreme and other Courts

in China and Japan

Code of Civil Procedure, Hongkong

Admiralty Rules

Foreign Jurisdiction Act

Act of United States Congress Relating to Treaties

Regulations for the Consular Courts of United States in China

Rules of Court of Consuls at Shanghai

Customs and Excise Act

China Siam

Customs and Harbour Regulations for the different ports of China, Philippines, Siam, &c.

Protectorate Regulations

HONGKONG

Charter of the Colony

New Rules of Legislative Council

&c., &c.

The Treaties between Great Britain and

France, France and Annam, 1884, France and

Cambodia, 1884, Great Britain and Siam, 1883,

together with many other items, have not

appeared in previous issues.

Orders may be sent to Daily Press Office, where it is published, or to the following Agents—

MACAO—Messrs. Gould & Co.

SWATOW—Messrs. Nicholls & Co.

AMBOY—Messrs. Wilson, Nichols & Co.

FORMOSA—Messrs. Wilson, Nichols & Co.

FOOCHEW—Messrs. Hodge & Co.

NINGPO—Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, S'hai.

SHANGHAI—Messrs. Kelly & Walsh.

NORTHERN CHINA—Messrs. Hall & Holt, Kelly & Walsh, S'hai.

DEEPEST PORT—Messrs. Swallow, Shanghai.

NAGASAKI—Messrs. The C. G. T. T. Co.

HIOGO, OSAKA—Higoo News' Office.

YOKOHAMA—Messrs. Kelly & Co.

MANILA—Messrs. Diaz Puentes & Co.

SAIGON—Mr. Crozier.

HAIPHONG—Mr. Dupont.

BANGKOK—Messrs. Bjurling & Co.

SHANGHAI—Messrs. Saylo & Co.

PEKING—Messrs. Wilson, Nichols & Co.

CALICHO—Messrs. A. M. & J. Hendy & Co.

CALCUTTA—Messrs. Newman & Co.

AUSTRALIA—Messrs. Gordon & Gotsch, Sydney.

LONDON—Mr. Edward Clement's Lane.

LONDON—Messrs. Street & Co., Cornhill.

LONDON—Messrs. Botes, Hendy & Co.

SAN FRANCISCO—Mr. L. P. Clark, Merchants.

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NEW YORK—Mr. A. Wind, 21, Park Row.

Daily Press Office, January 1885.

NOTICE

A. S. WATSON AND CO.
FAMILY AND DISPENSING
CHEMISTS,
By Appointment to His Excellency the Go-
VERNOR and His Royal Highness the Go-
DUKE of EDINBURGH.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS

PERFUMERS,

PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS,

DRUGGISTS SURGEONS,

AND
STERILIZED WATER MAKERS.

SHIP'S MEDICINE CHESTS REFINED

PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

Notice.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm, A. S. Watson & Co., or

HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

1885.

the war party, will soon be generally acknowledged to have been dictated by sound policy. Under any circumstances, and at any time, a war between the two leading Powers of the Far East would be a continuation to be deployed.

The British consul, Mr. Smith, Commander-in-Chief, arrived here yesterday from Swatow. The gunboat *Esk* has gone to that port to her relief.

The Agents (Messrs. Butterfield & Swire) inform us that the S. S. *Antenor*, from London, left Singapore on the 17th inst.

A Japanese newspaper states that the Korean King is thirty-three years old, the Queen thirty-six years and the King's father, the Dai Lin-kun, sixty-three years.

Lieut.-Colonel Hobson, The Buffs, has arrived to take command of the garrison here, and has been granted a passage home in the steamer *Henday*. The *Henday* goes home direct and not by the Cape, as was first announced.

The Criminal Sessions were formally opened at the Supreme Court yesterday morning and adjourned at once to-morrow. There is not a large amount of business to occupy the time of the jurymen on this occasion.

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At Shanghai, on the 1st instant, the English Cathedral, the Rev. F. E. Smith, M.A., James Stevenson, Canon of Peterborough, presided.

Surry's eldest daughter, Miss Barbara, wife of Mr. George Stevenson, died on the 1st instant.

DEATHS.

At Shanghai, on the 1st instant, Joaquim Luiz Antunes da Costa, eldest son of Joaquim Luiz Antunes da Costa, aged 4 years.

At Shanghai, on the 1st instant, William Walter, Captain of the *Marine* Road, Shanghai, at 8 o'clock this morning.

ANOTHER FRENCH MINISTERIAL CHANGE.

The Minister of Marine and the Colonies has

resigned:

LOSS OF THE BRITISH STEAMER

"ROSSLYN."

We regret to have to record the loss of another steamer employed in the coasting trade.

Messrs. Adamson & Williams, of London, agents

for the *Ross*

Bourne Treaty would probably not be considered for one moment by Mr. Jules Ferry. It is known that the French Government are desirous of going on, whose and may be, it is hoped, a permanent peace; but the war is a difficult one, on the existing complications have been intensified and surrounded by the unhappy occurrences at Seoul. It is very fortunate that Sir H. Parkes and Horace von Brandt, the Ministers of England and Germany now in Peking, have a most intimate acquaintance with Japanese affairs of responsibility, we may be sure, that if decisive action is necessary it may be taken.

All projects for improvements have been laid aside, so no foreign capitals are willing to make engagements on behalf of China until peace is assured upon terms that will not cripple the finances.

Mr. Davenport, H.M. Consul here, is to leave in March. His services in the position he has held for so long, good and successful, will be much felt, as he is a man of great ability, and on consider and diplomatic affairs his strong family of sound judgment is supplemented by his legal training. That while in the prime of life, and with his mind ripened by intimate acquaintance with the conditions of foreign interest and the world's necessities, he has given up his post for the sake of his own countrymen. The name of his successor has not been announced, but as the post of British Consul at Tientsin is now a very important one, we may trust Her Majesty's Minister to make a good selection—*N.C. Daily News Correspondent.*

TOKIO.

The Torpedo Bureau has invented a mode of frustrating the laying of torpedoes by means of the reflection of electric light.

The Naval Arsenal resumed work on the 2nd instant. The manufacture of Nordenfelt guns for man-of-war is being specially hurried.

The thirty-five tons gun recently forged at the Orange Works has been sent to the Imperial Body Guards and the Tokyo Garrison.

A sword forged in the reign of the Emperor Seiwa, about 1150 years ago, in the possession of the Imperial Household Department, has been recently renovated and ground.

The snow storm of the 7th instant evidently lasted much longer in Tokyo and neighbourhood than in Yokohama, no less than 13 inches having fallen.

The construction of fire transports has been commenced at the Yokosuka Dockyard. It is in contemplation to build a considerable number of these ships in a few years.

Of 69,500 yen worth of claret exported from Yamazaki Prefecture last year, 40,300 yen worth passed through foreign agencies, and the rest was directly exported—*to Shima.*

By the end of January there have been made at the Tokio Garrison some Japanese swords and bayonets fitted to rifles. Though the definite result has yet been obtained, the Japanese swordsmen in most cases won the victory.

The total quantity of cartridges in the possession of the Department of War will not exceed three hundred per man if equally distributed among the men of the standing army, reserves, and militia. In case of emergency only the attacking army will be provided with the Murata rifle.

During the past year, there occurred 498 fires in Tokyo, destroying 3,558 houses. Arranged according to months, the numbers of fires and houses destroyed were as follows:—January, 76 fires, 833 houses; February, 54 fires, 738 houses; March, 69 fires, 723 houses; April, 37 fires, 20 houses; May, 34 fires, 36 houses; June, 22 fires; July, 20 fires, 11 houses; August, 13 fires, 23 houses; September, 39 fires, 70 houses; October, 27 fires, 47 houses; November, 44 fires, 151 houses; December, 78 fires, 563 houses—*Japan Mail.*

A FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY FOR SINGAPORE.

A public meeting was held on the 5th January at the Exchange Room, Singapore, for the purpose of considering a proposal to form a Fire Insurance Company at Singapore. There were present—Messrs. Thomas Scott (Chairman), T. Scott, W. G. Greig, T. Scott, W., Douglas J. Craig, T. C. Bogardus, Wm. von der Schulenburg, A. C. G. Smith, J. F. C. Stirling, J. J. Blair, T. Blair, W. G. Boyce, Ong Kwee Hooi, See Ewe Lay, W. Sarge, J. Fernand, Max Bahr, W. B. Smith, F. G. Burnard, R. G. Stiven, S. T. Thomson, J. M. Purvis, C. Stringer, J. Blair, T. Neave, T. Cuthbertson, G. Edgar, E. J. Robertson, A. J. Gunn, G. M. Dara, T. E. Earle, Hon. G. T. Addis, F. G. Penney, H. Pentton, A. D. N. M. Galtison, E. Danigan, T. L. May, J. C. G. Smith, J. C. G. Smith, A. G. Moore, Rev. H. W. M. Jackson, John Ken Seng, Dr. C. H. Triching, Dr. T. C. Magilton, J. C. F. George, W. Meeks, J. Graham, Lee Cheng Yean, and others.

On the proposal of Mr. Scott, Thomas Scott, Esq., was unanimously called to the chair. Mr. Gauthier was asked to act as Secretary to the meeting.

The Chairman, after reading the notice calling the meeting, and alluding to the printed paper signed by Mr. Greig, Mr. Birchshaw, and himself which having been circulated was taken as read, said—Gentlemen, this meeting has been arranged in order that it may be gathered whether the Straits community is ripe for a local Fire Insurance Company. At present the Fire Insurance business of these Settlements is greatly behind the few of our Agents for Fire Insurance, both at home and abroad, of Companies in Europe, China, &c. It is decided to establish a local Company I trust that it will not be regarded merely as a rival to the Companies now having Agencies here, but that it will be taken rather as an expression on the part of the people of these Settlements of a desire to have more diversified personal interests in such business. And it is hoped that by inducing this greater interest in the business, and the actual experience of fire insurance business, particularly among our native friends, and tend to promote and foster a feeling of greater security. It will be for decision later on as to the basis on which it may be deemed best to constitute the Company. But I may say that the view which has been suggested is that the Insurance Company, if formed, should run on much the same lines as the Straits Agents of the London Company, which are as follows:—(1) That after payment of the first charge on the earnings of the Company shall be a fair remuneration to the shareholders in the shape of interest the amount paid up on shares. (2) That the formation of a reserve fund shall be the second charge; (3) And the third an annual bonus to all contributors whether members or non-members of the Company. The amount of each a bonus is an act of the majority of the shareholders who it is hoped will prove an inducement to insure. Those who insure and are shareholders will have the satisfaction of knowing that the money they pay as premium is not altogether lost to them, as payments to other Companies are, but that the premium goes to promote what is hoped, will prove a very satisfactory investment; while shareholders who have a balance will give, will, if the Company does not make a profit, and with it also said, the certainty of a good interest on their money and the prospect later on of a handsome addition to this, and contributors of business who are not shareholders will have the prospect of a bonus; it does not mean such a bonus as is now generally given, which is simply a form of reduced premium—but a return on business of the Company.—He concluded by moving the resolution, the motion, the resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Gauthier.

That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable to form a Limited Liability Company, to cover Fire Insurance risks, and that a Provisional Committee be now appointed to draw up a prospectus and make arrangements for its formation.

Mr. Scott addressed the meeting in support of the motion, and showed, from the success of similar undertakings here and elsewhere, that the field was a large and promising one for fire insurance. The Fire Insurance Companies at present represented here would lose but a small part of their business as most godowns now covered were too near each other to admit of full lines between them, and the other hand, if the Chinese traders could be induced to insure against fire, not only would insurance business be profitably extended, but also element of risk connected with the import trade of the Colony would be much diminished.

Mr. Greig, while agreeing with all that had been said by the previous speakers, urged the uniting of himself with Fire Insurance in any company with which he could associate from his knowledge of Java companies as holding a company combining Fire and Marine risks would have a better chance of success than one limited to one field, and if properly worked would not affect injuriously the other local company. If it were considered unadvisable at once to accept Marine risks, there need be no compunction to

work that branch of the business till circumstances required to justify doing so, but it would be well to retain the power to do so in any Article of Association that might be agreed upon. He moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Mr. BOGAARDT—

That a local Fire and Marine Insurance Company be formed and called the... Insurance Company, and the Governor be given the same to subsequent making.

Mr. W. B. SMITH spoke against and Mr. BOGAARDT in favour of Mr. Craig's amendment.

Mr. Scott deprecated opposition to the local Marine Insurance Company in which so many residents were interested, though it would be indisposed to exercise power to the undertaking.

Mr. CRAIG's amendment was put to the vote first, and obtained seven votes. Mr. Scott's resolution was then put and carried by a large majority.

Two other propositions, this brought forward as the result of the new company, one by Mr. T. S. THOMSON, seconded by Mr. M. BERNARD, "that the Company be called the Straits Fire Insurance Company Limited," another by Mr. JOHN FRASER, seconded by Mr. ADDIS, "that the Company to be formed be called the Singapore Fire Insurance Company, Limited."

These resolutions were successively put to the vote, and the majority was to abstain from dividing the two. The Unionists voted for the resolution, which was proposed by Mr. W. B. SMITH and seconded by Mr. PENTON, was carried by 26 votes against 3.

That the name of the new company be left to the Provisional Committee.

Mr. SOHIER then proposed and Mr. JOHN ANDERSON seconded the following resolution, which was carried nem. con.

That a Provisional Committee of eleven be appointed, with power to transact business on behalf of the new company, and to take such steps for the formation of the company.

The meeting then proceeded to ballot for the committee, and the following gentlemen, having received the greatest number of votes, were declared to be the members of the Provisional Committee—Messrs. T. S. THOMSON, G. T. ADDIS, T. C. BOGAARDT, T. S. BERNARD, H. G. EDGAR, G. EDGAR, and G. EDGAR. This was then proposed by Mr. W. B. SMITH and seconded by Mr. PENTON, was carried by 26 votes against 3.

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This out of the sea, having had his mast carried away by a strong wind at Green Island, took boat. The *Ariane* won race about thirteen minutes ahead of the *Suehuan*, the *Eva* being third, about seven minutes later.

Sandy Bay, below the Pukumon road, was the scene, during the small hours of the 11th inst., of an organised robbery by an armed party of Chinese. At this spot the military authorities had established a guard post, which had been fitted up electric batteries, and all the fortifications were in a state of readiness for exploding submarine mines which are to be constructed in the harbour off that point. Two Chinese watchmen were left in charge of the marshals and of the appliances contained in it, and at the time stated they were awakened from their sleep by a crowd of about forty armed savages breaking into the place. After a short struggle, and after the watchmen were wounded and bound to the supports of the shed, and then the robbers searched the building for what they could find worth their while to steal. They do not seem to have secured much plunder, for all they went off with was a telegraph belonging to the military authorities and the wardrobes of the two unfortunate watchmen, which were valued at \$5. The Chinese, however, had looted a chest containing the mace of one of the other craft, and he has been detained pending the settlement of the claim.

TAIWANFOO.

29th December.

H.M.S. *Champion* arrived from Amoy on the 18th instant, had for Tamsui on the morning of the 20th, and returned here on the 22nd. Under direct orders from Admiralty less than no letters were allowed to be landed, and the mail brought by the *Wanderer* a month ago, is still on board. In like manner Captain Powlett, R.N., had to refuse any correspondence for the month of Dec. This is the second time that the *Wanderer* has been unable to land again since her arrival. Mr. W. D. Spratt, of H.M. Consular Service, arrived here by the above man-of-war, to relieve Mr. Wm. Grayson, who is appointed to the duties of Consul at Iching.

The news brought by the *Champion* points to an early attack on Tamsui, the French having, it appears, received reinforcements, and thus accounts, in a measure, for the absence of the crews of the four gun-boats which were sent to the coast of China. Sixty sailors arrested a Chinese at Weihai-wei on the charge of being an informer, and the Chinese, who had been taken before the Police Court, and he was remanded.

A military Court Martial was held at the Commissioner's Buildings on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 13th and 14th instant, to hear two charges against Colour-Sergeant George L. Mills, of the British Guards, for deserting his regiment, and the second, for allowing his kit to become incomplete by neglect.

The prisoner admitted having deserted, but said he was not in his proper senses at the time he did so. He went to Shanghai where he was taken sick, and after that surrendered himself to the Consul. He had been in custody six weeks—from the 2nd December last, and into consideration in awaiting his trial. He expressed deep contrition for the crime of desertion, and he said that had he not been under the influence of drink he should not have attempted it. As to the second charge, he left his kit in proper order, and if it was not in that condition now, it had become disjoint in his absence. He threw himself upon the mercy of the court.

Captain L. M. P. Gurney, of the Army, commanding the 1st Battalion, Royal Engineers, who had held the position of non-commissioned officer without suffering reduction for a considerable portion of his term of service. He had been a colour-sergeant 257 days. In answer to the prisoner, Captain Knight said he had every reason to believe he had not been apprehended, but had surrendered himself, as a telegram had been sent to him confirming his capture. The court adjourned until the 18th instant, when the case was referred to the commandant of the British Garrison, who approved of the sentence of six months' imprisonment with hard labour, and to be reduced in rank.

At a united meeting of the various lodges of Good Templars working in Hongkong under the direction of Mr. J. C. Thompson, the Master-District Deputy, on the 14th instant, Bro. G. H. Steward, the Master-Deputy, was present with his son, Captain Knight, who had been recommended by Lieut.-General Surgeon, was read out on Parade on the morning of the 16th inst. The prisoner was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour, and to be reduced in rank.

We learn that the saving of treasure from the wreck of the *Huntington* last year may shortly lead to litigation between Captain Vincent and the Chinese. The Chinese, however, are in a position to demand a sum equivalent to the amount of the wreck.

The steamer *Li-hua* has cleared for Chinkiang deeply laden, no doubt with ammunition. We hear she goes to Kien-yang to take in troops, and that she will then proceed to her usual destination in the Yangtze.

Mr. J. Han, having returned to Shanghai, resumes his place as Assessor at the Mixed Court.

The first number of a new weekly paper issued at Shanghai called the *Cathay*, edited by Mr. Fred. Esser, appeared on the 11th instant.

An *Ai-ting* steam dredger, having completed her task of deepening the mouth of the South River, was removed on the 16th inst.

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The Chinese are certainly headless and rash to a degree, and will not be long in hearing of another instance of foolish carelessness resulting in a fatal accident. On the afternoon of the 4th inst., when a gun on board a guard boat was being fired, touching the gunner's right arm clean off and killing him instantly. The cause of the explosion was overloading.

A collision between two junks, one a passenger-junk, the other a cargo-junk, took place near the mouth of the Nan-Hai district, and one was capsized, those on board being precipitated into the water. Fortunately no lives were lost. The owners of the sunken cargo-junk has lodged a claim against the master of the other craft, and he has been detained pending the settlement of the claim.

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H. MUMM & CO'S CHAMPAGNE.

S22 Per dozen Quarts.

S23 Per 2 dozen Pints.

SUPERIOR CLARETS, from FRANC & SAIN.

VINTAGES, 1849 to 1876, from \$10 to \$24

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POUILLEAC MONDON, \$6 per dozen Quarts.

R. W. RANDON & CO'S BRANDY,

VIENNA EXPORT BEER, from ANTON

DURSTEN.

S94 Per 4 dozen Quarts.

MELOCHE'S & CO.

Hongkong, 22nd April, 1884. [28]

FOR SALE.

JUST LANDED EX. S. S. "BRECONSHIRE,"

AND STILL UNPAID.

A BRASS HALTESTEP BEDSTEAD,

A HORSECHAIR MATTRESS, 1 white

GOOSE BOLSTER, 2 white DOWNS,

L. PAIR SUPER-BWHITE WHITE

BLANKETS, 1 PAIR DITTO, 1 IMPERIAL

WHITE MARSHALLES QUILTS, 2 WHITE COUN-

TERPANES, 1 ARCTIC GOOSE DOWNS QUIL-

T, WORKERS, 1 D.G. SWIRE, 1 D.G. SHIP-